Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A natural language processing apparatus comprising:

a processor;

an input ~~means for inputting a first natural language~~ device; and

a memory device storing instructions which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to operate with the input device to:

(a) input a first natural language;

(b) ~~converting means for converting~~ convert the first natural language ~~inputted by the input means~~ into a plurality of representations within the ~~same~~ first natural language, the plurality of representations replacing postpositional words of the first natural language;

(c) ~~confirmation means for confirming~~ confirm at least one ~~representation converted by the converting means~~ of the converted representations as being closest in meaning to the inputted first natural language, the confirmed representation being unmatched to any first attributes of a template table such that the confirmed representation is unsuitable for translation;

(d) ~~re-converting means for re-converting~~ re-convert the confirmed at least one representation to a re-converted representation within the ~~same~~ first natural language by exchanging word order of the at least one representation, the re-converted representation matching at least one of the first attributes of the template table such that the re-converted representation is suitable for translation;

(e) ~~processing means for translating~~ translate the re-converted representation to a second natural language; and

(f) ~~output means for outputting~~ output the second natural language.~~processed by the processing means.~~

Claims 2 to 6 (cancelled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 1, wherein the converting means further converts instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to convert the first natural language inputted by the input means into third language.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 1, wherein the converting means converts instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to convert plural representations into single representation with respect to representation of inputted natural language. inputted by the input means.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 1, wherein the converting means converts instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to convert polysemous representation into plural univocal representations with respect to representation of inputted natural language. inputted by the input means.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 1, wherein the converting means carries instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to carry out conversion by at least one of merger (integration), division, deletion, replacement and exchange of order with respect to representation of inputted natural language. inputted by the input means.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 1, wherein the input means inputs device is configured to input natural language by using voice.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 11, wherein the confirmation means confirms instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to confirm, only once, natural language inputted by voice to the input means device.

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Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The natural language processing apparatus ~~as set forth in~~ of clam 1, wherein the input ~~means inputs~~ device is configured to input natural language ~~by~~ using a character.

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The natural language processing apparatus ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 13, wherein the ~~confirmation means confirms~~ instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to confirm, only once, natural language inputted by the character at the input ~~means~~ device.

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The natural language processing apparatus ~~as forth in~~ of claim 1, wherein the ~~first natural language is inputted to the input means, the converting means converts~~ instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to:

(a)   convert first language inputted via the input ~~means~~ device into a second representation of the second language; ~~and converts it~~

(b)   convert the first language into a first representation of the first language having one-to-one correspondence with respect to the second representation;~~; and~~ ~~the confirmation means carries~~

(c)   carry out confirmation by using the first representation.

Claim 16 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The natural language processing apparatus ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 15, wherein the ~~processing means translates~~ instructions, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to:

(a)   translate the first natural language into the second language based on ~~the basis of~~ conversion ~~at the converting means~~ and confirmation;~~; at the confirmation means, and the output means outputs~~

(b)   output the translated second language.~~translated by the processing means.~~

Claim 17 (currently amended): A natural language processing apparatus comprising:

an input ~~means for inputting a natural language~~device;

a first processor;

a second processor; and

a memory device storing instructions which when executed by the first processor, cause the first processor to operate with the input device and the second processor to:

(a) input a natural language;

(b) ~~a plurality of processing means for implementing processing of the natural language, at least one processing means configured to~~ convert the ~~first~~ inputted natural language ~~inputted~~ into a plurality of representations of the natural language;

(c) ~~a plurality of confirmation means for confirming result of processing with respect to the natural language, at least one confirmation means configured to~~ confirm at least one representation being closest in meaning to the inputted ~~first~~ natural language, the confirmed representation being unmatched to any first attributes of a template table such that the confirmed representation is unsuitable for translation;

(d) ~~a plurality of re-converting means for re-converting~~ re-convert the plurality of confirmed representations into a plurality of re-converted representations of the natural language by exchanging word order within the plurality of representations, the re-converted representations matching at least one of the first attributes of the template table such that the re-converted representations are suitable for translation; and

(e) ~~output means for outputting~~ output the ~~processed~~ natural language, wherein a~~the~~ second ~~processing means for converting~~processor is configured to convert the natural language and a ~~second confirmation means for confirming~~confirm the results of the converted natural language ~~second processing means are provided~~ at a stage preceding a first processing means to thereby carry out execution in advance of confirmation of the first processing means to delete confirmation of result of the first processing means.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 17, wherein processing by the first processing means is machine translation processing, kana-kanji conversion processing, information retrieval processing by natural language, or representation conversion processing by natural language.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 17, wherein processing by the second processing means processor is machine translation processing, kana-kanji conversion processing, information retrieval processing by natural language, or representation conversion processing by natural language.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 17, further comprising, at a stage preceding the second processing means, a third processing means and third confirmation means for confirming result thereof, wherein the third confirmation means is coupled to the portion after the second or subsequent processing means, or wherein the third confirmation means is merged or integrated into the second confirmation means or confirmation means of the stage succeeding thereto to thereby carry out postponement of confirmation.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 20, wherein means in which the second confirmation means and the third confirmation means are merged or integrated gives result of processing as numeric value to present the numeric value.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus as set forth in of claim 20, wherein the first processing means carries out machine translation and the third processing means carries out voice recognition.

Claim 23 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The natural language processing apparatus ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 20, ~~comprising: voice recognition processing means for carrying~~ the instructions, when executed by the first processor, cause the first processor to:

    (a)   carry out voice recognition of the inputted natural language; ~~inputted to the input means, recognition result confirmation means for confirming~~

    (b)   confirm a voice recognition result; ~~at the voice recognition processing means, machine translation means for implementing~~

    (c)   implement machine translation to the confirmed voice recognition result; ~~and confirmed at the recognition result confirmation means, and translation result confirmation means for confirming~~ and

    (d)   confirm a machine translation result ~~at the machine translation means~~, wherein representation conversion processing means for converting representation and representation conversion confirming means for confirming result of the conversion thereof are supplemented at ~~the~~ a preceding stage of the machine translation ~~processing means~~ to thereby carry out execution in advance of ~~processing by the translation result~~ the confirmation of the machine translation result ~~means~~ to omit the translation result confirming ~~means~~ of the stage succeeding to the machine translation implementation. ~~processing means.~~

Claim 24 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The natural language processing apparatus ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 23, wherein postponement of processing by the recognition result confirming means which merges or integrates the recognition result confirmation result with the representation conversion result confirming means existing at the stage succeeding thereto is carried out.

Claims 25 to 26 (canceled).

Claim 27 (currently amended): A ~~method of operating a~~ natural language processing ~~apparatus including instructions, the~~ method comprising:

(a)   ~~causing a processor to execute the instructions to operate with an input device to an~~ input ~~step of inputting~~ a first natural language;

(b)   ~~causing the processor to execute the instructions to a~~ ~~conversion step of converting~~ convert the first natural language ~~inputted at the input step~~ into:

  (i)   a plurality of representations within the first natural ~~same~~ language~~;~~; ~~wherein the first natural language inputted at the input step is further converted into~~

  (ii)   a second representation of a second language~~;~~; and ~~converted into~~

  (iii)   a first representation of the first natural language having one-to-one correspondence with respect to the second representation, the plurality of at least another representation replacing postpositional words of the first natural language;

(c)   ~~a confirmation step confirming~~ causing the processor to execute the instructions to confirm the converted first natural language ~~converted at the conversion step using the first representation~~ as being closest in meaning to the inputted first natural language, the confirmed representation being unmatched to any first attributes of a template table such that the confirmed representation is unsuitable for translation;

(d)   ~~a re-converting step for re-converting~~ causing the processor to execute the instructions to re-convert the ~~confirmed~~ converted first natural language ~~converted at the confirmation step~~ to a re-converted representation within the ~~same~~ first natural language by exchanging word order of the first natural language, the re-converted representation matching at least one of the first attributes of the template table such that the re-converted representation is suitable for translation;

(e)   ~~a processing step of implementing processing to~~ causing the processor to execute the instructions to translate the re-converted first natural language ~~re-converted at the reconverting step~~ to a second natural language; and

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(f)   causing a display device to display ~~an output step of outputting~~ the ~~first~~ second
         natural language.~~, processed at the natural language processing step on a display~~
         ~~section.~~

Claims 28 to 30 (canceled).

Claim 31 (currently amended):   A method of operating a natural language processing
apparatus including instructions, the method comprising:

(a)   causing a processor to execute the instructions to operate with an input device to
         ~~an~~ input ~~step of inputting~~ a natural language;

(b)   ~~a plurality of processing steps for implementing processing to the natural~~
         ~~language, at least one processing step converting~~ causing the processor to execute
         the instructions to convert the ~~first~~ inputted natural language ~~inputted~~ into a
         plurality of representations of the natural language;

(c)   ~~a plurality of confirmation steps for confirming a result of processing with respect~~
         ~~to the natural language, at least one confirmation step for confirming~~ causing the
         processor to execute the instructions to confirm at least one representation closest
         in meaning to the inputted ~~first~~ natural language, the confirmed representation
         being unmatched to any first attributes of a template table such that the confirmed
         representation is unsuitable for translation;

(d)   causing the processor to execute the instructions to ~~a plurality of re-converting~~
         ~~steps for re-converting~~ re-convert the plurality of confirmed representations into a
         plurality of re-converted representations of the natural language by exchanging
         word order within the plurality of representations, the re-converted
         representations matching at least one of the first attributes of the template table
         such that the re-converted representations are suitable for translation; and

(e)   thereafter, causing a display device to display ~~an output step of outputting~~ the
         processed natural language, ~~on a display section;~~ wherein a second processing
         step of converting the natural language and a second confirmation step of
         confirming result of the second processing step are provided at a stage preceding
         a first processing step to thereby carry out execution in advance of confirmation

of the first processing step to delete confirmation of result of the first processing step.

Claims 32 to 33 (canceled).

Claim 34 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 1, wherein the re-converted representation has the same meaning as the at least one representation.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A The natural language processing apparatus ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 17, wherein the plurality of re-converted representations have the same meaning as the plurality of representations.

Claim 36 (currently amended): ~~A natural language processing~~ The method ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 27, wherein the first natural language re-converted at the reconverting step has the same meaning as the first natural language converted at the conversion step.

Claim 37 (currently amended): ~~A natural language processing~~ The method ~~as set forth in~~ of claim 31, wherein the plurality of re-converted representations have the same meaning as the plurality of representations.

Claims 38 to 41 (canceled).